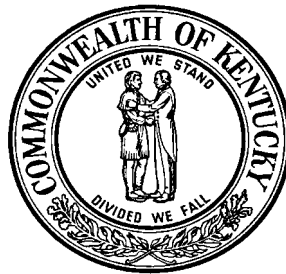


**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
FORMER ADAIR COUNTY
SHERIFF**

**For The Period January 1, 2002
Through January 5, 2003**



**CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
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CRIT LUALLLEN
Auditor of Public Accounts

To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor

Robbie Rudolph, Secretary

Finance and Administration Cabinet

Honorable Jerry Vaughan, Adair County Judge/Executive

Honorable Ralph Curry, Former Adair County Sheriff

Honorable Steve Cheatham, Adair County Sheriff

Members of the Adair County Fiscal Court

The enclosed report prepared by Ross & Company, PLLC, Certified Public Accountants, presents the statement of receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the former Sheriff of Adair County, Kentucky, for the period of January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003.

We engaged Ross & Company, PLLC, to perform the financial audit of this statement. We worked closely with the firm during our report review process; Ross & Company, PLLC, evaluated the former Adair County Sheriff's internal controls and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Crit Luallen".

Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

Enclosure



**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
FORMER ADAIR COUNTY
SHERIFF**

**For The Period January 1, 2002
Through January 5, 2003**

**ROSS & COMPANY, PLLC
Certified Public Accountants
800 Envoy Circle
Louisville, KY 40299
Telephone: (502) 499-9088
Facsimile: (502) 499-9132**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE FORMER ADAIR COUNTY SHERIFF

**For The Period January 1, 2002
Through January 5, 2003**

Ross & Company, PLLC, has completed the former Adair County Sheriff's audit for the period of January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003. We have issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement is presented fairly in all material respects.

Financial Condition:

Excess fees increased by \$24,308 from the prior calendar year, resulting in excess fees of \$28,874 as of January 5, 2003. Revenues increased by \$18,883 from the prior year and disbursements increased by \$5,425.

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Report Comments:

- The Fiscal Court Should Annually Set A Maximum Amount That The Sheriff May Expend For Deputies And Assistants
- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Deposits:

The former Sheriff's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities or bonds.

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To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor
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Honorable Ralph Curry, Former Adair County Sheriff
Honorable Steve Cheatham, Adair County Sheriff
Members of the Adair County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying statement of receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the former County Sheriff of Adair County, Kentucky, for the period of January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003. This financial statement is the responsibility of the former County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the former County Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis and laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the former County Sheriff for the period of January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003, in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting.

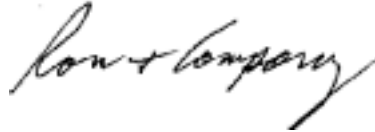
In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated November 25, 2003, on our consideration of the County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor
Robbie Rudolph, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Jerry Vaughan, Adair County Judge/Executive
Honorable Ralph Curry, Former Adair County Sheriff
Honorable Steve Cheatham, Adair County Sheriff
Members of the Adair County Fiscal Court

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comments and recommendations, included herein, which discusses the following report comments:

- The Fiscal Court Should Annually Set A Maximum Amount That The Sheriff May Expend For Deputies And Assistants
- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross & Company", written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ross & Company, PLLC

Audit fieldwork completed -
November 25, 2003

ADAIR COUNTY
 RALPH CURRY, FORMER COUNTY SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES

For The Period January 1, 2002 Through January 5, 2003

Receipts

Federal Contract:		
Lake Patrol	\$	20,133
State Grant:		
Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund		5,073
State Fees For Services:		
Finance and Administration Cabinet		7,390
Circuit Court Clerk:		
Sheriff Security Service	\$	9,910
Fines and Fees Collected		<u>9,724</u>
		19,634
Fiscal Court		3,300
County Clerk - Delinquent Taxes		2,442
Commission On Taxes Collected		126,816
Fees Collected For Services:		
Auto Inspections	\$	12,385
Serving Papers		29,225
Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits		<u>7,260</u>
		48,870
Other:		
Tax Penalties and Fees	\$	25,942
Miscellaneous		2,450
Bond Reimbursement		<u>826</u>
		29,218
Interest Earned		1,511
Borrowed Money:		
State Advancement		<u>47,716</u>
Total Receipts	\$	312,103

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ADAIR COUNTY
 RALPH CURRY, FORMER COUNTY SHERIFF
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES
 For The Period January 1, 2002 Through January 5, 2003
 (Continued)

Disbursements

Operating Disbursements and Capital Outlay:

Personnel Services-			
Deputies' Salaries	\$	77,921	
Part Time Gross Salaries		38,733	
Employee Benefits-			
Employer's Share Social Security		12,866	
Contracted Services-			
Advertising		235	
POPS Testing		571	
Materials and Supplies-			
Office Materials and Supplies		1,333	
Uniforms		4,196	
Auto Expense-			
Gasoline		7,501	
Maintenance and Repairs		3,187	
Other Charges-			
Transporting Prisoners		135	
Dues		343	
Postage		3,995	
Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits		4,900	
Miscellaneous		5,115	
Capital Outlay-			
Vehicles		<u>10,000</u>	\$ 171,031
Debt Service:			
State Advancement			<u>47,716</u>
Total Disbursements			<u>\$ 218,747</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ADAIR COUNTY
 RALPH CURRY, FORMER COUNTY SHERIFF
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES
 For The Period January 1, 2002 Through January 5, 2003
 (Continued)

Net Receipts		\$	93,356
Less: Statutory Maximum	\$	62,259	
Training Incentive		<u>2,223</u>	<u>64,482</u>
Excess Fees Due County		\$	28,874
Payments to County Treasurer:			
January 24, 2003	\$	28,694	
January 27, 2003		19	
February 27, 2003		<u>161</u>	<u>28,874</u>
Balance Due at Completion of Audit		<u>\$</u>	<u>0</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ADAIR COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 5, 2003

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of receipts over disbursements to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this basis of accounting, certain receipts and certain expenditures are recognized as a result of accrual.

The measurement focus of a fee official is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the County Treasurer in the subsequent year.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the County Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Employee Retirement System

The county officials and employees have elected to participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), pursuant to KRS 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems. This is a multiple-employer public retirement system that covers all eligible full-time employees. Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute. Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.0 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 6.41 percent for the first six months of the year and 6.34 percent for the last six months of the year. Hazardous covered employees are required to contribute 8.0 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for hazardous employees was 16.28 percent.

ADAIR COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
January 5, 2003
(Continued)

Note 2. Employee Retirement System (Continued)

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65. Aspects of benefits for hazardous employees include retirement after 20 years of service or age 55.

Historical trend information pertaining to CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement Systems' annual financial report which is a matter of public record.

Note 3. Deposits

The former Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). According to KRS 66.480(1)(d) and KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the former Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution. These requirements were met, and as of January 5, 2003, the former Sheriff's deposits were fully insured or collateralized at a 100% level with collateral of either pledged securities held by the former Sheriff's agent in the former Sheriff's name, or provided surety bond which named the Sheriff as beneficiary/obligee on the bond.

Note 4. Drug Enforcement Fund

Drug investigation funds are to be used for drug enforcement expenses of the Sheriff's office and are kept separate from the Sheriff's fee account. As of January 1, 2002, the beginning balance was \$2,504. During the period of January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003, the Sheriff's office received \$1,436 of forfeited money from drug-related arrests in the county and expended funds of \$2,162. The ending balance was \$1,778 as of January 5, 2003.

Note 5. DARE Program Fund

DARE program funds are to be used for drug awareness and resistance education programs and are kept separate from the fee account. As of January 1, 2002, the beginning balance was \$2,528. During the period from January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003, the Sheriff's office received \$379 and expended \$1,365. The ending balance was \$1,542 as of January 5, 2003.

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COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADAIR COUNTY
RALPH CURRY, FORMER COUNTY SHERIFF
COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

For The Period January 1, 2002 Through January 5, 2003

STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS:

The Fiscal Court Should Annually Set A Maximum Amount That The Sheriff May Expend For Deputies And Assistants

The Fiscal Court did not approve the maximum amount that the former Sheriff could expend on deputies' salaries and assistants. KRS 64.530 states that.... the fiscal court shall fix annually the maximum amount, including fringe benefits, which the officer may expend for deputies and assistants, and allow the officer to determine the number to be hired and the individual compensation for each deputy and assistant. We recommend compliance with KRS 64.530.

Ralph Curry, Former County Sheriff's Response:

None.

INTERNAL CONTROL:

The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Due to the entity's diversity of official operations, small size and budget restrictions, the official had limited options for establishing an adequate segregation of duties. The former Sheriff could have implemented compensating controls to offset this internal control weakness.

Ralph Curry, Former County Sheriff's Response:

None.

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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE
AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

ROSS & COMPANY, PLLC
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To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor
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Honorable Steve Cheatham, Adair County Sheriff
Members of the Adair County Fiscal Court

Report On Compliance And On Internal Control
Over Financial Reporting Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the statement of receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the former Adair County Sheriff for the period of January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated November 25, 2003. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the former Adair County Sheriff's financial statement for the period of January 1, 2002 through January 5, 2003, is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards and which is described in the accompanying comments and recommendations.

- The Fiscal Court Should Annually Set A Maximum Amount That The Sheriff May Expend For Deputies And Assistants

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the former Adair County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted a certain matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition.

Report On Compliance And On Internal Control
Over Financial Reporting Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards
(Continued)

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)

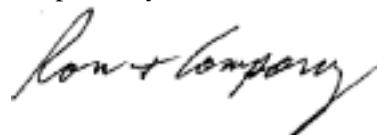
Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statement. A reportable condition is described in the accompanying comments and recommendations.

- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statement being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we consider the reportable condition described above to be a material weakness.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified party.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ross & Company", is written over a horizontal line.

Ross & Company, PLLC

Audit fieldwork completed -
November 25, 2003

